

Edmonton Bulletin.

VOL. II.

EDMONTON, N.W.T., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1882.

No. 16.

TELEGRAPHIC.

WINNIPEG, Feb. 9th, 1882.

The Duluth & Winnipeg railway is being constructed rapidly. The company expect to finish in December of this year.

Dewdney remains in Ottawa. It is rumored that he has been sworn in within the past few days. It is said that he does not care to reside in the North-West, and it is believed that he will reside in Ottawa until the next capital of the Territories is located and then remove thither. Batleford is already said to be the gubernatorial headquarters.

Half a dozen new North-West land companies give notice of application to Parliament for charters.

The Schultz party have filed a bill in equity praying to have Hammond and his associates ousted from the management of the South-western Railway. Hammond, who represents stockholders owning three-fourths of the total stock, has filed a bill asking for an interim injunction until the final hearing of the case, which is to be argued on Friday.

There is much talk about the claim jumping telegraphed to the Free Press. The sympathy of the people is in favor of the committee.

Guiteau is sentenced to be hanged on the 30th of June next.

The Syndicate has issued circulars proposing to carry Dominion members of Parliament for half fare, single tickets, and member of the Legislature for one and one-third fare, return tickets.

Another railway company applies for a charter to construct a line from a point on the Canadian Pacific, in Manitoba, to Ft. Ellice, then to Touchwood Hills, thence to Ft. la Corne, thence to Pine River Pass, thence to the Pacific Coast.

British House of Commons met Feb. 7th.

WINNIPEG, Feb. 10.

Dominion Parliament met yesterday. The Speech from the Throne refers to the Governor's trip to the North-West, and congratulates Canada on the possession of so magnificent and so fertile a region. Thinks the time has come for dividing the territory into four or more provincial districts. The influx of population has greatly increased the danger of collision between settlers and Indians, which renders the augmentation of the Mounted Police a matter of urgency. Exertions have been made to induce Indians to betake themselves to the raising of cattle and to cultivate the soil. Regrets that the necessity for supplementing the food supply of the Indians still exists and is likely to exist for some time.

Four million dollars surplus in the treasury.

The following is a list of applications for charters: Rapid City Central Railway Company, Manitoba Midland Railway Company, Qu'Appelle Land Company, Michipicoton and Moose Factory Railway Company, Western Canada Colonization, Intercolonial Construction Company, South Saskatchewan Railway Company, Lake Athabasca & Churchill Railway Company, General Land Company of Canada, Saskatchewan & Qu'Appelle Navigation Company, Ontario Pacific Railway Company, Ontario Investment Association, Souris & Rocky Mountain Railway Company, North-West Fertile Belt Colonization Company, Ontario & North-Western Company, British Canadian Colonization Company, Saskatchewan Transportation Company, Intercolonial Colonization Company, Temperance Colonization Society, Primitive Methodist Colonization Company, Nelson Valley Railway and Navigation company, Winnipeg & Hudson's Bay railway company, Roving River Boom company.

Ft. Pelly, 10th Feb., 1882.

Weather fine, and snow so deep that traveling without snow shoes is bad.

First mail this year arrived yesterday from Ft. Ellice. Can't say when the next comes. May be for days, weeks, months; yes, and may be forever.

A little excitement the other morning. The police stabling was on fire. No damage.

LOCAL.

MAIL arrived yesterday afternoon and leaves on Sunday afternoon about four o'clock.

THE H.B.Co. started 175 bushels of seed barley for Morleyville, Bow River, on Tuesday last.

WEATHER report crowded out. Lowest thermometer, 13 below on Monday and 11 below on Thursday. Fair to cloudy with high winds. Snow fall about an inch.

THE police returned to Ft. Saskatchewan on Wednesday, as there was no likelihood of any further riotous demonstrations, and as no information was laid no arrests were made.

A MEETING of the Orangemen of this vicinity was held in Mr. Galbraith's shop on Wednesday evening to take steps towards the formation of a lodge. Mr. Philip Atwell was appointed Master. Eighteen names were signed to the application for a charter. The next meeting is to be held the first Tuesday on or before the full of the moon.

THE following telegram from Dr. Lynch, of Winnipeg, was received here on Saturday last by Mr. G. S. Wood: "Have you obtained medical man yet? If not, I can safely recommend one who will be able to leave within a few weeks. Let me hear from you as soon as possible." Mr. Wood answered—"We have made no arrangement as yet. Vacancy still unfilled. Many thanks for trouble we have given you. Answer when anything more definite is known."

ON Monday of last week Mr. J. Reid, of Ft. Saskatchewan, discovered a seam of coal at the mouth of the creek which runs past the Old Man's Knoll and empties into the Saskatchewan on the south side, about eight miles above the barracks. The seam can be noticed for about three-quarters of a mile along the banks of both the creek and river. It is four feet thick, and a small quantity taken from the seam and tried in the police forge burnt well and answered for both heating and welding. The seam will be opened and worked to supply coal to parties at Ft. Saskatchewan.

SASKATCHEWAN MINSTRELS.

On Thursday evening last the police of Ft. Saskatchewan gave a minstrel entertainment in the barracks buildings. Invitations had been issued to nearly every person in the country and almost all responded. As most of the guests were from a distance, refreshments were served at six o'clock in the evening, after which the performance commenced. The room was decorated with evergreens and flags, and looked well. A number of seats had been arranged, which were altogether occupied by the ladies, while the men were obliged to stand, as the crowd was so dense that there was no room for sitting down. Besides those in the building a large number were unable to squeeze into it at all.

Mr. P. Curran handled the bones, Mr. J. Chabot the tambourine, and Mr. W. Chamberlayne acted as middleman. Besides these, Messrs. McNichol, Schultz and Bradshaw of the force, and Mr. A. Taylor, contributed to the interest of the entertainment. The music was furnished by Messrs. W. Moulton and F. McLellan. The interest was well kept up throughout, and songs, recitations, farces and dances all received merited applause. Considerable fun was taken out of different Edmonton parties, and the claim jumping and jumpers came in for their full share.

As soon as the minstrel performance ended, the room was cleared for dancing, which was kept up with vigor until daylight. Supper was served at midnight and breakfast at six in the morning, after which the crowd dispersed. About 300 people were present—the largest number yet seen at an affair of the kind in the country.

CANADIAN ALMANAC for 1882 at

FRANK OLIVER'S.

NOTICE—A meeting of the A. F. & A. M. of Edmonton and vicinity will be held in McDougall's Hall on Monday evening, Feb. 13th 1882, at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of making final arrangements for the opening of a lodge. All the brethren are particularly requested to attend.

P. HEIMINCK, W.M.

Mr. J. STANTON, who will leave during the next two weeks for Lac la Biche to erect the new grist mill there, would be glad to hear of any person going in that direction who would bear him company.

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(successors to A. G. B. Bannatyne.)

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GROCERS and dealers in

PROVISIONS, WINES AND LIQUORS,

202 Main St., Winnipeg.

ANDREW STRANO.

JAMES BANNATYNE.

SAW MILL MACHINERY FOR SALE.—Complete except the rails. Terms half cash. F. SMITH.

GOLD RING LOST—On Saturday, Jan. 23th, somewhere between the steam mill and Brown's store, a lady's carved gold ring. The finder will receive a suitable reward on leaving it at the BULLETIN office.

BALL AND SUPPER—In McDougall's Hall on Friday evening, Feb. 17th. Dancing to commence at 8 o'clock. Tickets \$2.00, which will entitle the holder to one throw in a raffle for a double barrelled rifle and shot gun combined. Value, \$50. The gun can be seen and examined at Frank Oliver's store.

R. McKERNAN.

JAS. HALY & CO.

FORT SASKATCHEWAN, N.W.T.,

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COCHRANE RANCH CO. (LIMITED),

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Importers and Breeders of Thoroughbred and Grade Stock.

We will keep constantly on hand a full supply of beef cattle, work oxen, driving and saddle horses. Having purchased a band of American bred horses, mostly descendants of the celebrated trotting stallion "Live Oak," we can safely recommend them as unsurpassed in the Territory for action and endurance. We have also in our stables at present the thoroughbred stallions Moss Trooper and Konrad, both noted English and Kentucky bred horses. Their pedigrees can be seen at the offices of the BULLETIN and Saskatchewan Herald. One of these stallions would be sold next spring to make room for two Clyde stallions now en route from Scotland, as we intend in future to pay more attention to breeding farm and draft horses. We will have a shipment of thoroughbred horses and cattle arriving in Benton by the first boats next spring and will import on reasonable terms pure bred horses, cattle, sheep and pigs of any breed required for parties residing in the Bow River or Saskatchewan districts, provided we have their orders in time to enable us to ship with our stock in the spring. As the selection of all our thoroughbred stock is under the supervision of the noted stock raiser, Hon. M. H. Cochrane, parties trusting us with their orders can rely on getting animals of the purest strains. A limited number of mares would be received next season for services to thoroughbred or Clyde stallions. Terms, \$25 for the season.

Address—

MAJOR JAMES WALKER, Manager
Bow River

GENERAL NEWS.

SMALL-POX is at work in Montana.

SAUER kraut is shipped from Halifax to Chicago.

NIAGARA Falls is to be illuminated by the electric light.

The fall wheat in Michigan has been suffering lately from the ravages of a fly.

THERE is now a line of steamers running direct from Halifax to Rio Janeiro, Brazil.

CATTLE restaurants are to be established for the use of cattle being transported by rail.

THE savings banks of California have \$76,000,000 on deposit. Looks like good times.

It is estimated that the H.B.Co.'s share of the North-West amounts to 7,000,000 acres.

THE choir of St. George's (English) Church, Toronto, appear during service in surplices.

A **COPPER** mine in Dorchester, N.B., was sold recently to Boston capitalists for \$70,000.

THE Scott Temperance Act was defeated in the county of Lambton, Ont., by a majority of 84.

THE Manitoba Monetary Times advises young men to come west if they are "clock full of days' work."

THE township of Sombra, Ont., has discovered that it has been swindled out of \$2,000 by a former treasurer.

THE Mennonites who come to Manitoba are said to be doing better than those who went to Kansas and Minnesota.

CANNED rabbits are an article of trade in Nova Scotia. The supply of raw material is greater than the demand.

THE Syndicate workshops for the eastern division will be either at Montreal or Ottawa, whichever place will give the most bonus.

CONTRARY to the general opinion, it has been proved by analysis that the water of the Red River is purer than that of the Assiniboine.

In a skirmish off the east coast of Africa, lately, between a small British vessel and a slaver, the British were beaten off with a loss of three killed and three wounded.

In an address to a grand jury in Montreal, lately, the judge said that idleness and drink were at the bottom of nearly all the crimes committed. Why not keep away the drink, then?

THE air line of the C.P.R., between Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie, was set in running order about the 20th of December, and the Government track abandoned, except as far as Stonewall.

THE latest report about Winnipeg land speculation is that a company is about to put in an appearance with a cash capital of \$2,000,000 and gobble up every available lot inside the city limits.

A **PROJECT** is on foot in Pennsylvania to manufacture gas right at the coal pit and supply it to the most distant cities through immense pipes, the object being the saving of freight on the coal.

THE Nelsonville Mountaineer says that if the South-western railway company do not turn over a new leaf, the name will become synonymous for everything false as that of the Syndicate is for everything grasping and greedy.

AN infernal machine, loaded with dynamite and spikes, was found near the court house wall, lately, in Montreal. It was taken away and the next day another was found in the same place. The perpetrators have not been discovered.

THE Portage is having grand masquerades at the skating rink, and Bryton's theatrical troupe bled the citizens for five nights last month. Times are changed since the fur traders used to camp in front of Wallace & Blake's hotel.

THE London Free Press, as patriotic as the balance of the Canadian papers, sports an advertisement of Northern Pacific railway and at the head of one of its news columns. The Free Press, like the Globe, does not object to encouraging emigration to the United States if paid for doing so.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR has prohibited liquor at the White House.

THERE are six potato starch factories in Prince Edward Island.

WAR is imminent between Mexico and the States of Central America.

THERE is to be a second traffic bridge across the Assiniboine between Winnipeg and St. Boniface West.

THE affairs of the Ontario Bank are being investigated and some important revelations are being made.

In the county of Richmond, Quebec, a disease has broken out lately resembling diphtheria, but ten times more fatal, as well as more catching.

A **SEAM** of coal over three feet thick has been struck in a well, at a depth of twenty-three feet, about seventy miles west of Pilot Mound, Manitoba.

THE Beet Root Sugar Company of Coaticook, Quebec, have turned out the first barrel of their product. They will receive a bonus of \$7,000 a year for ten years from the Provincial Government.

LATEST reports from Ireland are very conflicting. Some are to the effect that the excitement is quieting and the tenants are taking advantage of the land court, while others say that outrages are on the increase.

THE great two million acre English land company is to be called "The Land Corporation of Canada," and is to have a capital of £500,000. The Canadian local committee will consist of Messrs. Bain, Bannatyne, Blanchard and Sweeney, of Winnipeg. We have great pleasure in wishing the enterprise all possible success, and hope that the company's £500,000 will be irretrievably sunk.

In regard to the amalgamation of the Credit Valley and Great Western railroads in Ontario, it appears that a clause in the charter of the Credit Valley road prevented it from being sold to any other company, the idea being to protect the municipalities which had given heavy bonuses to the road, so that they should always have an independent competing line, as the Credit Valley Co. were financially weak and therefore liable to be bought up by their more powerful competitor, the Great Western. The difficulty was got over by the weaker company nominally purchasing the stronger, but really being purchased by it, at which Ontario howls.

All kinds of

FARMING IMPLEMENTS

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OLIVER & McDONALD.

BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.

Sash and doors on hand and made to order.

Plans and estimates of buildings furnished

Everything done with neatness and dispatch.

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CITY OF EDMONTON,

situated at the head of navigation on the North Saskatchewan River; the centre of the Gold, Coal, Timber and Mineral region of the Great North-West, and surrounded by the richest wheat-producing country in the world.

The four great highways leading from Winnipeg, the great Bow River grazing country, the Peace River country and British Columbia via the Jasper Pass, centre on the Town Site.

It is the terminus of the C.P. telegraph line, the North-West mail route, and the projected Saskatchewan branch of the C.P.R.

The Hudson's Bay Co. offer for sale 1,000 lots on the above town site at low prices and on reasonable terms.

All information can be had by applying at the H.B.Co. offices in Winnipeg or Montreal.

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Agent, Edmonton. Commissioner.

JUST ARRIVED

The largest stock of

READY-MADE CLOTHING

yet brought into the City of Edmonton, and marked down at prices to suit the times.

Call, see and be convinced.

BOYS' SUITS, all sizes and prices.

OVERCOATS, all sizes and prices

MEN'S SUITS, all sizes and prices.

OVERCOATS, all sizes and prices.

A large lot of

HEAVY TWEED SHIRTS

very cheap. Call early and secure bargains

A large stock of

GENTS' WINTER UNDER CLOTHING

A few

LADIES' MANTLES,

superior in quality and very cheap

A fresh lot of

TEAS AND OTHER GROCERIES.

Stock in other lines well assorted.

A. MACDONALD & Co.'s

VILLIERS & PEARSON,

EDMONTON

have now on hand a very large and well assorted stock of goods.

Carts arriving every week.

ON THE JUMP.

For some time past different parties have been casting a longing eye on a piece of property in town owned until recently by Mr. J. Sinclair. As the gentleman mentioned had never resided on it and had sold out his interest to others, it was supposed that any person who would jump it would have a good show for the title. The only building on it is occupied as a store by A. Macdonald & Co., who rented it from Mr. Sinclair previous to its being sold by him. Owing to the sudden rise in value of the H.B.Co. lots, people here went land crazy, and this particular property came to be valued at from five to ten thousand dollars—quite an inducement to at least try the experiment of jumping when the onlay need only be small. On Saturday last Mr. L. George, who has been in the employ of Mr. J. A. McDougall, of Villiers & Pearson, for some time past, concluded, or was induced, to make the attempt. Why he did so is not very clear, as he being an American citizen is not entitled to the privileges of the homestead act, and it was under cover of this act that the jump was to be made. At any rate, on Saturday morning he drove in his stakes at each side of the frontage of what is recognized as this property, and put on a force of men to erect a small frame house 10x20 on the claim. The news caused considerable excitement, a good many thinking that the owners should not have been so careless about their property, while others argued that if jumping was once started no man would be able to leave his claim for a moment without being in danger of losing it.

During the afternoon Messrs. Anderson, Kippen and Wilson drove to the place, and Mr. Anderson forbade the carpenters to proceed with the work, and on being asked by what authority he did so, said "as proprietor." He also saw Mr. George and forbade him to proceed with the work on the same terms. Only the frame of the house was finished on Saturday, but Mr. George erected a tent in it and slept there that night. Nothing was done on Sunday, but the air was full of rumors of other jumps to be made should this attempt succeed. The day, however, passed quietly, and Mr. George again occupied the tent on Sunday night. Monday morning came and work was recommenced on the building, while the proprietors of the place began to cast about for some means of ejecting the intruder. Finding that the law gave them no means of doing so they determined to use force. By this time the excitement had become intense, and there was no difficulty in getting men willing to make this a test case and carry matters with as high a hand as might be necessary.

About four o'clock the crowd began to gather, and in a few minutes 150 men were on the ground. There seemed to be no recognized leader, each man taking what part he thought fit. The proprietors then told Mr. George the object of their coming and asked him to remove the building from the premises within half an hour, adding that if he was unable to do so they were willing to render him all the assistance in their power. He replied that he did not want the building removed and did not intend to remove it, and would shoot the first man who attempted to remove it, at the same time producing a revolver and pointed it at those nearest him. The house had not been boarded up and he was standing just inside the studding, while the crowd were close around him outside. Mr. D. R. Fraser slipped between the studding and seized George by the hands, and Mr. W. Henderson reached through and took the revolver from him. Some of the crowd also reached through and seized George, trying to pull him out of the building, but as they were attempting to pull him through between different studs at the same time they were not successful, so he was allowed to remain. No further resistance was attempted, and the carpenters who were at work were requested to pick up their tools and leave, which they did. While they were waiting for ropes with which to draw the building away, an animated discussion was carried on between Messrs. Kippen, Fraser and others and Mr. George, but neither party seemed to convince the other, and as the discussion got rather tame, and the rope was long in coming, some of the crowd began to build a fire by which to warm

themselves, while others began to tear the building down. At last the ropes came and the building was dragged straight ahead to the edge of the high bank overlooking the river, and about 200 feet above it. Mr. George remained in the building all the time until it came to the edge of the bank, when he politely stepped out at the back end. The crowd then turned and dragged it along the edge of the bank until it came on Colin Fraser's property, and after the tent and bedding were lifted out the house was tumbled over, wrecking it completely. The balance of the building material, which was lying where the house stood, was thrown over the bank after it. The revolver was then handed back to Mr. George.

A deputation consisting of Messrs. Kippen, Gurneau and others then went to A. Macdonald & Co.'s store and demanded to know the intentions of the firm in regard to the property—whether they intended to jump or not, and whether they intended to pay rent or not, adding the remark that if they intended to jump it they and their goods would be turned out inside of five minutes. Mr. C. Stewart, on behalf of the firm, refused to answer, as he did not consider that the questioners had any right to ask. The deputation then left and the crowd dispersed.

Mr. C. Stewart then left for Ft. Saskatchewan in haste to demand the protection of the police. Capt. Gagnon, Sergt.-Major Belcher and four men arrived on Tuesday, but there had been no further demonstrations. A party of about a dozen men, thoroughly armed, kept watch in Macdonald & Co.'s store all night, fearing an attack from the vigilance committee which was being formed.

THE VIGILANTES.

When the Monday afternoon rumpus was over, a meeting was announced for that evening, in McDougall's hall, for the purpose of organizing a vigilance committee or mutual protection society, and at the hour appointed about 100 people were present.

Mr. A. W. Kippen stated the object of the meeting in a few words, after which Mr. J. Harris was appointed chairman and Mr. G. S. Wood, secretary.

The chairman said that this was a meeting for action and not for discussion; but that a short time would be allowed for those who had anything to lay before it, after which those not in favor of the organization of the committee would be requested to retire.

Mr. T. Anderson was with the meeting, but objected to a secret society being formed, as such was illegal. The object for which the association was to be formed was a good one and would receive the support of the public at large, and it was unnecessary and bad policy to do anything in secret.

The chairman favored the idea of the society being secret, and did not think the mere fact of it being secret made it illegal, while it would certainly make it more feared.

Mr. Kippen agreed with Mr. Harris. Mr. D. Ross had little to say, but thought it better that the society should not be secret.

Mr. L. Gurneau thought that the society should be secret.

The discussion was then closed, and all who did not wish to join the society were requested to leave the meeting.

A committee was then appointed to draft a resolution stating the necessity, object and intentions of the society, and to formulate an oath to be taken by the members on joining. When this had been done, 47 men signed the roll and took the oath, after which the committee was regularly organized.

J. LAKE commenced erecting a frame house on the disputed Sinclair property on Tuesday last.

The raffle on Tuesday evening at Kelly's for a two year old colt, owned by Mr. J. Kiplin and valued at \$25, resulted in favor of Mr. J. G. Dawes taking the colt.

The Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland has issued a circular condemning the land league, and pointing out that in the United Kingdom and its Colonies there are thousands and thousands of Orangemen ready to fight for the constitution.

CITY OF EDMONTON,

situated at the head of navigation on the North Saskatchewan River; the centre of the Gold, Coal, Timber and Mineral region of the Great North-West, and surrounded by the richest wheat-producing country in the world.

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R. MCGINN, Agent, Edmonton. C. J. BRYDGES, Commissioner.

P. HEIMINICK'S,

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A MACDONALD & Co., Edmonton

transact a general banking business. Deposits received and drafts issued on Battleford, Winnipeg and all points east.

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J. LAKE, on the premises, or at Frank Oliver's store.

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Will do all kinds of blacksmithing work with neatness and despatch, at his shop in the H. B. Co's fort, Edmonton.

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MESSES MCKAY & BLAKE, Edmonton, N.W.T.

VILLIERS & PEARSON,

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Terms strictly cash.

All communications to be addressed to Frank Oliver, Edmonton, or A. Dunlop, Winnipeg.

One-half of the term for which the BULLETIN is published having expired, it will be given for the balance of the term for \$1.00.

OLIVER & DUNLOP,
Proprietors.

EDMONTON BULLETIN, FEB. 11, 1882.

THE LAND.

The events of the past few days have brought the question of the ownership of the land here prominently to the fore; and while all must regret that such events should have occurred, it is more than probable that the fact of their occurrence will produce good rather than evil. We allude to the attempt to jump the Sinclair claim, and the course taken by the people in the matter. The circumstances in regard to the ownership of the claim in question are about as follows:

Up to some eight or nine years ago no land had been settled on around Ft. Edmonton owing, principally, to the disturbed condition of the country. There was no law, and no one to enforce it if there had been any, and between whisky traders and Indians a settler was likely to have a poor chance for reaping what he sowed. At that time, however, and before the arrival of the police, a number of men staked out claims on the land adjoining the H.B.Co. reserve on the east. Each one was supposed to take 200 yards. The claims, as taken originally, starting from the H.B.Co. line, were: The Methodist church, parsonage, school house, Henry Hardisty, R. Hardisty, E. McGillivray, D. McLeod, J. Rowland, W. Rowland and K. Macdonald. Of these claims, H. Hardisty's and McGillivray's were never improved by the original takers, the Hardisty claim passing into the hands of Mr. Colin Fraser, and that of McGillivray being divided between R. Hardisty and D. McLeod, while that attached to the school house became the property of Mr. D. McDougall. All the claims, except that taken by Mr. R. Hardisty, have been occupied and improved by the parties mentioned ever since and have been universally recognized as theirs. Mr. Hardisty built a large house on his claim at a cost of over one thousand dollars, but owing to his connection with the H.B.Co. was unable to reside on it, so he sold it to Mr. J. Sinclair. It remained in Mr. Sinclair's possession for a number of years. Although he did not occupy it himself it was seldom vacant, as he rented it at different times, he being the acknowledged owner. Last summer a fence was run partially around it, and this, with a small potato patch, was all the improvement made on the land. After the fence was put up the building was rented to A. Macdonald & Co. for use as a store, and the firm have occupied it ever since. During the past month Mr. Sinclair re-sold the property to Mr. R. Hardisty, who again sold to a little syndicate composed of Messrs. A. W. Kippen, F. Wilson and others. This was the state of affairs when the attempt to jump was made last Saturday.

The immediate consequence of the trouble has been the forming of a vigilance committee, who have bound themselves to uphold each

other in their rights to their claims, and the probability is that any other attempts to jump will be dealt with severely, while no doubt a more determined resistance will be made; and once bloodshed occurs, as it is almost certain to, it is hard to say where the matter will end. For several years trouble similar to this has been brewing, as the settlers became thicker and the land became more valuable, while the apathy of the Government has been a standing encouragement to any who felt like assuming their neighbors' rights. Although the announcement was made that squatters' rights would not be recognized, all parties knew that such a course could not be adhered to, and the impression was that whoever was in possession of the ground at the time of the survey would receive the title—at least he would have the best chance for it.

The matter cannot be allowed to rest. The people will assert their rights. If the Government will not protect them in those rights they will protect themselves, and any bloodshed that may occur will be justly chargeable to the Government.

All that is wanted to set the matter right is that the surveys be made and disputes in regard to claims be settled by a commission appointed for the purpose, that is if the settlers are to be allowed the land at all; but if it is to be reserved by Government or confiscated by the Syndicate, let the fact be known at once so that people shall not be induced to squander money and endanger their lives for what is not to be theirs in the end. The affair should be attended to at once. To leave it a moment longer may complicate matters so that thousands of dollars will not make them right. The meridian and base lines are run, there are Dominion land surveyors in the place who could go to work to-morrow, a commissioner could be appointed—say Judge Richardson—and all disputes could be settled without trouble inside of two months. This course will have to be taken some time. It is foolish for the Government to try to keep back settlement here any longer. Edmonton is before the public, and now that it has started nothing will turn the stream of emigration aside. Public opinion throughout Canada would not allow them to deprive the people here of their rights; then why can they not accept the situation and treat this settlement in the manner that its importance deserves?

What the intention of the Government is cannot be told, but the intentions of the people are known; and whether legal or illegal, right or wrong, just or unjust, they will carry out those intentions to the extent of their ability, and all that will hinder them will be the opposition of a stronger force than themselves.

By the terms of sale of the Syndicate lands the purchaser must not remove or destroy any improvements he may make until he shall have received his deed; and neither must he sell any of the wood upon it. If he does not erect buildings he must sow and reap a crop on three-fourths of the land inside of four years from the date of occupation; but if he builds and resides on the land for three years out of the four he need only crop one-half. When he receives his deed a strip 200 feet wide is reserved as a right of way for any road to be hereafter built by the company. But if the purchaser fails in the slightest degree of fulfilling all the conditions, and making the payments exactly at the appointed time, his right to the land becomes utterly null and void, and the company can take possession again without any notice whatever. This is certainly an iron-clad agreement, and does not seem to be of a nature to induce the rapid settlement of the country. It is only equalled in harshness by the Government regulations. The country must be fertile indeed if settlement proceeds under such disadvantageous terms.

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